

IN THE CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. - 32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump comprising:

a drivable rotor having a blade in a housing which can be set in rotation, the rotor being comprising plastic and being formed as one piece, the rotor comprising a first longitudinal section configured for being coupled to a drive shaft via which a torque can be transmitted from a drive shaft to the rotor and that the first longitudinal section being formed as one piece with the rotor and wherein the rotor has a slot and ~~at least one support~~ first and second support sections.

34. (Previously Added) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, wherein the rotor has at least one cavity open at the edge.

35. (Previously Added) A vacuum pump according to claim 34, wherein the cavity is introduced from a position consisting of the group consisting of the drive-side frontal side of the rotor and the frontal face of the rotor turned away from the drive.

36. (Previously Added) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, wherein the rotor comprises walls having a slight thickness.

37. (Previously Added) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, wherein the rotor comprises two wall areas and a transition between the two wall areas of the rotor having a different thickness, the which is continuous.

38. (New) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, wherein the slot has a diameter is smaller than the rotor diameter in the area of the slot in which the blade is displaceable.

39. (Previously Added) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, wherein the rotor has a diameter and a slot and wherein the rotor has at least one support whose diameter is the same size as the rotor diameter in the area of the slot in which the blade is displaceable.

40. (Previously Added) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, wherein the rotor has a slot and two supports and wherein a diameter of at least one of the supports is smaller than the rotor diameter in the area of the slot.

41. (Previously Added) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, wherein the rotor has at least two cavities disposed next to one another which are separated from one another by a rib.

42. (Previously Added) A vacuum pump according to claim 41, wherein the rotor has wall areas and wherein the rib is thinner than the rest of the wall areas of the rotor.

43. (Previously Added) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, further comprising a coupling formed by a disk and wherein the rotor can be energized with a torque via the coupling.

44. (Previously Added) A vacuum pump according to claim 43, wherein the disk has a thickness and a diameter, and wherein the ratio of the thickness (b) and the diameter (d) of the disk lies in a range of $0.14 \leq b/d \leq 0.3$.

43. 45. (Currently amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, wherein the rotor has a drive segment having a support length (l) and the rotor having a diameter and wherein the diameter (D) of the rotor lies in a range of $0.35 \leq l/D \leq 0.65$.

44. 46. (Currently amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, further comprising at least two drive segments which are connected to one another by a closed ring.

45. 47. (Currently amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, further comprising a coupling having a drive mechanism selected from the group consisting of a long hole in which a drive shaft engages and a drive tongue which engages in a corresponding slot in a drive shaft.

46. 48. (Currently amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 45 47, wherein the drive tongue has a double surface formed by a first longitudinal section of the rotor which is provided with a vat-like cap preferably consisting of sheet metal.

47. 49. (Currently amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, wherein the rotor has an elastic drive element working together with a drive shaft.

48. 50. (Currently amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, further comprising a drive element.

49. 51. (Currently amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 48 50, wherein the drive element is spring steel.

50. 52. (Currently amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 48 50, wherein drive element projects into a slot in a drive shaft and is displaceably guided in it.

51. 53. (Currently amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 50 52, wherein the drive element engages in a slot-like recess in the rotor.

52. 54. (Currently amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 48 50, wherein the drive element is held undisplaceably in the recess.

53. 55. (Currently amended) A vacuum pump according 48 50, wherein the drive element is embedded in the rotor.

54 56. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 48 50, of the preceding claims characterized by the fact that the drive element is formed in the shape of a U.

55 57. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 48 50, wherein the rotor comprises at least one stop surface during the energizing of the drive element with a torque.

56 58. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 50 57, wherein the drive element is formed as a ball in a bearing area of the rotor.

57 59. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 48 50, wherein the rotor has at least one stop for the drive element.

58 60. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 48 50, wherein the drive element is angled off at an end engaging a recess in the rotor.

59 61. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, wherein the rotor is disposed in communication with a motor.

60 62. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, wherein the rotor has a first longitudinal section which can be coupled to a drive shaft via which a torque can be transmitted

from the drive shaft to the rotor and that the first longitudinal section is formed as one piece with the rotor.

61 63. (Previously Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, further comprising a coupling having a bearing surface; and an opposing surface disposed at the rotor for each bearing surface of the coupling where a torque transmitted from a drive shaft can be conducted into the rotor via the opposing surface.

62 64. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, wherein the rotor has at least one cavity open at the edge.

63 65. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 62 64, wherein the cavity is introduced from a position consisting of the group consisting of the drive-side frontal side of the rotor and the frontal face of the rotor turned away from the drive.

64 66. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63 characterized by the fact that the opposing surface is located on a drive segment projecting over the drive-side frontal surface of the rotor (1).

65 67. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, wherein the rotor has walls having a slight thickness.

66 68. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, wherein the rotor comprising two wall areas and a transition between the two wall areas of the rotor having a different thickness which is continuous.

67 69. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, wherein the rotor has a slot and at least one support having a diameter is smaller than the rotor diameter in the area of the slot in which the blade is displaceable.

68 70. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, wherein the rotor has a diameter and a slot and wherein the rotor has at least one support whose diameter is the same size as the rotor diameter in the area of the slot in which the blade is displaceable.

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69 71. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, wherein the rotor has a slot and two supports and wherein a diameter of at least one of the supports is smaller than the rotor diameter in the area of the slot.

70 72. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, wherein the rotor has at least two cavities disposed next to one another which are separated from one another by a rib.

71 73. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 70 72, wherein the rotor has wall areas and wherein the rib is thinner than the rest of the wall areas of the rotor.

72 74. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, further comprising a coupling formed by a disk and wherein the rotor can be energized with a torque via the coupling.

73 75. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 72 74, wherein the disk has a thickness and a diameter, and wherein the ratio of the thickness (b) and the diameter (d) of the disk lies in a range of $0.14 \leq b/d \leq 0.3$.

74 76. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, wherein the rotor has a drive segment having a support length (l) and the rotor having a diameter and wherein the diameter (D) of the rotor lies in a range of $0.35 \leq l/D \leq 0.65$.

75 77. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, further comprising at least two drive segments which are connected to one another by a closed ring.

76 78. (Currently Amended) Vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, further comprising a coupling having a drive mechanism selected from the group consisting of a long hole in which the drive shaft engages and a drive tongue which engages in a corresponding slot in a drive shaft.

77 79. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 76 78, wherein the drive tongue has a double surface formed by a first longitudinal section of the rotor which is provided with a vat-like cap preferably consisting of sheet metal.

78 80. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, wherein the rotor has an elastic drive element working together with a drive shaft.

79 81. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, further comprising a drive element.

80 82. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 79 81, wherein drive element projects into a slot in a drive shaft and is displaceably guided in it.

81 83. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 80 82, wherein the drive element engages in a slot-like recess in the rotor.

82 84. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 79 81, wherein the drive element is held undisplaceably in the recess.

83 85. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 79 81, wherein the drive element is embedded in the rotor.

84 86. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 79 81, wherein the drive element is formed in the shape of a U.

85 87. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according claim 79 81, wherein the rotor comprises at least one stop surface during the energizing of the drive element with a torque.

86 88. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 85 87, wherein the drive element is formed as a ball in a bearing area of the rotor.

87 89. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 79 81, wherein the rotor has at least one stop for the drive element.

88 90. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 79 81, wherein the drive element is angled off at an end engaging a recess in the rotor.

89 91. (Currently Amended) Vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, wherein the rotor is disposed in communication with a motor.

90 92. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 61 63, wherein the rotor has a first longitudinal section which can be coupled to a drive shaft via which a torque can be transmitted from the drive shaft to the rotor and that the first longitudinal section is formed as one piece with the rotor.

91 93. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 33, wherein the rotor has at least two cavities which are each introduced from a frontal side of the rotor and that the rotor has at least one closed wall running transversely or essentially transversely to the central longitudinal axis of the rotor, said wall separating the cavities from one another in the axial direction.

92 94. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, wherein the cavities extend in the axial direction into the central area of the rotor.

93 95. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, wherein the rotor has walls having a slight thickness.

94 96. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, wherein the rotor comprises two wall areas and a transition between the two wall areas of the rotor having a different thickness which is continuous.

95 97. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, wherein the rotor has a slot and at least one support having a diameter is smaller than the rotor diameter in the area of the slot in which the blade is displaceable.

96 98. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, wherein the rotor has a diameter and a slot and wherein the rotor has at least one support whose diameter is the same size as the rotor diameter in the area of the slot in which the blade is displaceable.

97 99. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 94 93, wherein the rotor has a slot and two supports and wherein a diameter of at least one of the supports is smaller than the rotor diameter in the area of the slot.

98 100. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 94 93, wherein the rotor has at least two cavities disposed next to one another which are separated from one another by a rib.

99 101. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 98 100, wherein the rotor has wall areas and wherein the rib is thinner than the rest of the wall areas of the rotor.

100 102. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 94 93, further comprising a coupling formed by a disk and wherein the rotor (1) can be energized with a torque via the coupling.

101 103. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 100 102, wherein the disk has a thickness and a diameter, and wherein the ratio of the thickness (b) and the diameter (d) of the disk lies in a range of $0.14 \leq b/d \leq 0.3$.

102 104. (Currently Amended) A Vacuum pump according to claim 94 93, wherein the rotor has a drive segment having a support length (l) and the rotor having a diameter and wherein the

diameter (D) of the rotor lies in a range of $0.35 \leq 1/D \leq 0.65$.

103 105. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, further comprising at least two drive segments which are connected to one another by a closed ring.

104 106. (Currently Amended) A Vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, further comprising a coupling having a drive mechanism selected from the group consisting of a long hole in which the drive shaft engages and a drive tongue which engages in a corresponding slot in a drive shaft.

105 107. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 103 105, wherein the drive tongue has a double surface formed by a first longitudinal section of the rotor which is provided with a vat-like cap preferably consisting of sheet metal.

106 108. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, wherein the rotor has an elastic drive element working together with a drive shaft.

107 109. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, further comprising a drive element.

108 110. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 107 109, wherein drive element projects into a slot in a drive shaft and is displaceably guided in it.

~~109~~ 111. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim ~~108~~ 109, wherein the drive element engages in a slot-like recess in the rotor.

~~110~~ 112. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim ~~107~~ 109, wherein the drive element is held undisplaceably in the recess.

~~111~~ 113. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim ~~107~~ 109, wherein the drive element is embedded in the rotor.

~~112~~ 114. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim ~~107~~ 109, wherein the drive element is formed in the shape of a U.

~~113~~ 115. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim ~~107~~ 109, wherein the rotor comprises at least one stop surface during the energizing of the drive element with a torque.

~~114~~ 116. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim ~~107~~ 109, wherein the drive element is formed as a ball in a bearing area of the rotor.

~~115~~ 117. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim ~~107~~ 109, wherein the rotor has at least one stop for the drive element.

116 118. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 107 109, wherein the drive element is angled off at an end engaging a recess in the rotor.

117 119. (Currently Amended) Vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, wherein the rotor is disposed in communication with a motor.

118 120. (Currently Amended) A Vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, wherein the rotor has

a first longitudinal section which can be coupled to a drive shaft via which a torque can be transmitted from the drive shaft to the rotor and that the first longitudinal section is formed as one piece with the rotor.

119 121. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, wherein rotor has a opposing surface and further comprising a coupling having a bearing surface of a coupling where a torque transmitted from the drive shaft can be conducted into the rotor via the opposing surface.

120 122. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 91 93, wherein the rotor has at least one cavity open at the edge.

121 123. (Currently Amended) A vacuum pump according to claim 120 122, wherein the cavity is introduced from a position selected from the frontal side of the rotor and from its frontal face (5) turned away from the drive.